



Vote NO on SB 6668 and SB 1178
Putnam Plastics Corporation
Before the Labor and Public Employees Committee
Hartford, CT
March 9, 2023
Testifying in opposition to:

SB 6668: An Act Modernizing the Paid Sick Day Statutes

SB 1178: An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days

Senator Kushner, Representative Sanchez, and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Jim Dandeneau and I am the CEO of Putnam Plastics located in Dayville, Ct. We have been in business for 38 years and employ 475 employees. **I am writing today in opposition to SB 6668 and SB 1178.**

Connecticut currently has one of the highest employee costs in the nation and we compete with companies that have low cost manufacturing locations in Costa Rica or Mexico. It is increasingly difficult for us to compete and remain in the state with this high labor cost.

Both SB 6668 and SB 1178 would extend the current paid sick day program to every employee at every employer in the state, expand the number of family members eligible, eliminate exemptions for manufacturers and non-profits, and provide penalties for failure to keep accurate records.

Extending the paid leave program to every employer in the state, at a time when we're coming out of a global pandemic, is shortsighted and yet another burden on businesses small and large. Between supply chain and workforce shortages, inflation, and rising healthcare costs, we're already doing all we can to keep up with a difficult business environment.

Since taking effect in 2012, those subject to the new law saw a cost increase of 2-5%, and there is no tangible data that shows less employee turnover or illness in the workplace.

Why are we doing this to Connecticut businesses? We are the backbone to our economy and workforce and put our employees at the forefront of everything we do.

We already have the most generous paid family and medical leave program in the entire nation.

We urge the committee to reject yet another burden on our business by opposing SB 6668 and SB 1178.

Thank you for your time.

Signed,

Jim Dandeneau CEO

Putnam Plastics Corporation